

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Chairman John Sinrud, on January 25, 2007 at 3:27 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)
Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Bill Beck (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)
Rep. Craig Witte (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 245, HB 298, HB 331, 1/18/2007
Executive Action: HB 245

00:00:05 Rep. Sinrud

HEARING ON HB 298

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:49 Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D), HD 85, opened the hearing on HB 298, Re-authorize natural resource damages program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:31 Mike McGrath, Attorney General, State of Montana
[EXHIBIT\(aph17a01\)](#)

00:09:24 Larry Peterman, Chief, Field Operations, DNRC

00:10:33 Jim Davison, citizen, Headwaters Development, Anaconda

00:11:14 Sandy Olsen, Remediation Division, Department of
Environmental Quality

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:53 Rep. Morgan

00:13:18 Mr. McGrath

00:13:26 Rep. Kasten

00:13:42 Mr. McGrath

00:15:14 Mr. McGrath

Closing by Sponsor:

00:15:31 Rep. Hiner

HEARING ON HB 331

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:16:25 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 331, Increase appropriations to certain economic development programs.

[EXHIBIT\(aph17a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:27 Joe McClure, Billings, Montana Economic Development
Association Big Sky Economic Authority

EXHIBIT (aph17a03)

00:22:08 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commission; MACO
00:22:26 Mike Wier, General Manager, Northwinds' Publishing,
Great Falls
00:24:56 Carl Schweitzer, Bozeman and Kalispell Chambers of
Commerce
00:25:24 John Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:26:03 Cheryl McArthur, Montana Cooperative Development Center

EXHIBIT (aph17a04)

00:28:31 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers' Union
00:29:34 Michael Strand, CEO and General Counsel, Montana Rural
Telephone Systems; Chairman of Board, Montana Council
of Cooperatives

EXHIBIT (aph17a05)

00:31:24 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)
00:31:51 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana
00:33:03 Gary Amestoy, Richland County Economic Development
Corporation
00:33:42 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers
00:34:14 Larry Mires, Two Rivers Economic Growth, Glasgow
00:34:33 Paul Tuss, Executive Director, Bear Paw Development
Corporation, Havre
00:35:09 Bruce Wright, Belgrade, Montana Farm Bureau; CEO,
Great Northern Growers' Cooperative
00:36:46 Jim Davison, Director, Anaconda Local Development;
Headwaters Regional Development Corporation
00:37:48 Steve Pilcher, Montana Stockgrowers Association
00:40:19 Gary Wiems, Montana Electric Cooperative Association
00:41:00 Don Marple, Chairman, Liberty County Commissioners

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:41:49 Rep. Sesso
00:43:30 Rep. Villa
00:43:59 Rep. Sinrud
00:44:24 Rep. Taylor
00:44:58 Rep. Villa
00:49:21 Rep. Morgan
00:53:32 Rep. Villa
00:54:03 Ms. MacArthur
00:55:21 Rep. Morgan
00:55:43 Ms. MacArthur
00:55:50 Rep. Kasten
00:55:57 Rep. Taylor

00:57:10 Rep. Villa
00:58:52 Rep. Musgrove

Closing by Sponsor:

00:59:55 Rep. Villa

01:01:35 Break
01:07:15 Resume

HEARING ON HB 245

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:07:19 Rep. Brady Wiseman (D), HD 65, opened the hearing on HB 245, State assumption of absentee ballot cost.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

Closing by Sponsor:

01:08:03 Rep. Wiseman

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 245

01:10:15 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Jayne moved that HB 245 **BE TABLED**.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote of members present, 13-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:35 P.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph17aad.pdf](#))